

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 13 as shown on the enclosed marked-up set of claims, as well as a clean copy of the claims now in the application after this Amendment.

1. (Twice Amended) A system for reviewing medical treatment claims provided by a plurality of practitioners to a plurality of insurance entities for the determination of the appropriateness of the medical treatment claims provided to a plurality of patients, comprising:

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a clearing house for receiving information from the plurality of practitioners regarding claims to be paid by one or more of the plurality of insurance entities, said clearing house provided with software to determine the appropriateness of each of the claims submitted by each of the plurality of practitioners, wherein said software determines the appropriateness of each of the medical treatment claims based upon whether a single practitioner has submitted more than one disparate medical treatment claim for a single block of treatment [period of] time on a single day, said clearing house communicating with the plurality of insurance entities and the plurality of practitioners regarding the appropriateness of each of the claims.

13. (Twice Amended) A method of determining the appropriateness of a treatment claim submitted by one of a plurality of practitioners to one of a plurality of insurance entities, the claimed treatment claim covering a treatment prescribed to a patient based upon a particular diagnosis or condition, comprising the steps of:

establishing a clearing house for examining each of the treatment claims;

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submitting treatment claims to said clearing house;

reviewing each of the treatment claims to determine the appropriateness of each of the treatment claims, said reviewing step including determining whether a single practitioner has submitted more than one disparate medical treatment claim for a single block of treatment [period of] time during a single day; and

communicating with the appropriate practitioner and the appropriate insurance entity the appropriateness of each of said treatment claims.